

REMARKS

The application has been reviewed in light of the Advisory Office Action mailed on July 7, 2006 and Final Office Action mailed on April 17, 2006. It is respectfully submitted that the claims pending in the application, namely, Claims 1, 3-17, 19-28, 30-31 and 33-35, are fully supported by the specification, introduce no new subject matter, and are patentable over the prior art. In view of the remarks to follow, reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

In the Advisory Office Action mailed on July 7, 2006, the Examiner objected to Claims 2-5, 10, 11, 13, 16, 18-20, 29 and 32-34. According to the Final Office Action mailed on April 17, 2006, Claims 2-5, 10, 11, 13, 16, 18-20, 29 and 32-34 are allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Independent Claims 1, 15, 22 and 31 have been amended to include the limitations of objected Claims 2, 18, 29 and 32. Therefore, it is believed that independent Claims 1, 15, 22 and 31 are patentable over the prior art of record. Accordingly, allowance of independent Claims 1, 15, 22 and 31 and their respective dependent claims is respectfully requested.

Independent Claim 35 has been amended to recite a similar limitation as the limitation added to Claim 31. Therefore, Claim 35 is believed to be patentable over the prior art of record. Accordingly, allowance of independent Claim 35 is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone or personal interview may facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, he is respectfully requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Likourezos', written over a horizontal line.

George Likourezos
Reg. No. 40,067
Attorney for Applicants

CARTER DeLUCA FARRELL & SCHMIDT, LLP

445 Broad Hollow Road
Suite 225
Melville, N.Y. 11747
Phone: (631) 501-5706
Fax: (631) 501-3526